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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/505,350	08/19/2004	Johannes Petrus Maria Van Lammeren	NL02 0143 US	5975

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EXAMINER

HILTUNEN, THOMAS J

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

2816

DATE MAILED: 04/05/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/505,350

Applicant(s)

VAN LAMMEREN, JOHANNES
PETRUS MARIA

Examiner

Thomas J. Hiltunen

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 31 January 2005.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☒ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 8/19/2004 is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☒ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Summary of changes in this action

1. Claim 1, has been amended, but has not overcome the previous rejections under 35 USC 112 second paragraph.
2. The amendment to the specification has overcome the objection in view of the term "flip-flip", but such has not overcome the issues concerning the headers in the specification.

Abstract

Applicant is reminded of the proper language and format for an abstract of the disclosure.

The abstract should be in narrative form and generally limited to a single paragraph on a separate sheet within the range of 50 to 150 words. It is important that the abstract not exceed 150 words in length since the space provided for the abstract on the computer tape used by the printer is limited. The form and legal phraseology often used in patent claims, such as "means" and "said," should be avoided. The abstract should describe the disclosure sufficiently to assist readers in deciding whether there is a need for consulting the full patent text for details.

The language should be clear and concise and should not repeat information given in the title. It should avoid using phrases which can be implied, such as, "The disclosure concerns," "The disclosure defined by this invention," "The disclosure describes," etc.

The abstract of the disclosure is objected to because it uses words which can be implied, i.e., "is provided". Correction is required. See MPEP § 608.01(b).

Title

The title of the invention is not descriptive. A new title is required that is clearly indicative of the invention to which the claims are directed.

Specification

The specification is objected to because of the following informalities:

(i) Headers such as "Field of the Invention", "Summary of the Invention", "Brief Description of the Drawings",... are missing. Appropriate correction is required.

Drawings

Figures 1-2 should be designated by a legend such as --Prior Art-- because only that which is old is illustrated. See MPEP § 608.02(g). Corrected drawings in compliance with 37 CFR 1.121(d) are required in reply to the Office action to avoid abandonment of the application. The replacement sheet(s) should be labeled "Replacement Sheet" in the page header (as per 37 CFR 1.84(c)) so as not to obstruct any portion of the drawing figures. If the changes are not accepted by the examiner, the applicant will be notified and informed of any required corrective action in the next Office action. The objection to the drawings will not be held in abeyance.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

Claim 1 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

The recitation of each delay circuit drives more than one latch is misdescriptive. As shown in Fig. 4 of the present invention, the right most delay circuit drives only one latch.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claim 1 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Neudeck (USPN 5,701,335).

With respect to claim 1, Neudeck discloses, “an integrate circuit (Fig. 1) comprising:

a plurality of pairs of latches (First pair: two left most latches 104, second pair: next two leftmost latches 104, and so on until circuit 112, which outputs new clock signals CKN1 and CKBN1) being respectively clocked by two non-overlapping clock signal (clock signals on lines 118 and 120, see Col. 3, lines 22-23); and

delay circuits are placed between clock-inputs of latches of a same clock signal (the recited delay circuits read on lines which connected between clock inputs of the same clock (see Col. 3, lines 49-50, i.e., these lines delay the clock signals by amounts which are RC), wherein each delay circuit drives more than one latch (these delay

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circuit drives more than one latch due to the cascaded configuration of the above latches);

wherein a small portion of a total number of latches to be switched during a cycle of a given clock signal are driven by the same delay circuit (The first and third latch on the left of 104 (latches that both receive clock 118) receive the same delay signal since the distance the clock signal of 118 travels to the first latch on the left is the same as the third latch on the left. Thus they have the same delay signal, then as the line increases from the third latch on the left to next latch the delay will increase (as CKN on 118 has to travel further than it does to the first and third). Therefore, a small portion of the latches to be switched (first latch and third latch on the left of 104) a driven by the same delay.), thereby reducing substrate bounce (The reduction of substrate bounce is merely functional language, and since Neudeck circuit performs the above recited claim language it to reduces substrate bounce)."

Response to Arguments

With respect to the amendment of claim 1, Examiner disagrees with Applicant. The amended recitation is taught by Neudeck, as indicated in the above rejection of claim 1. The first latch on the left of 104, and the third latch on the left of 104 have same delay with respect to the CKN signal. This is because the distance traveled by CKN from 102 to the first and third latches is essentially the same distance, thus the delay due to the RC components of the line are the same. Therefore in the delay provided to a small portion (two, i.e. the first and third latch) is the same. The reduction

of substrate bounce is merely functional language, which the steps providing the delay are preformed by Neudeck, thus having the capability of reducing substrate bounce. Thus, this rejection is hereby maintained.

The amendment does not overcome the previous rejection under 112 second paragraph as indicated in this and the previous office action. Applicant has failed to provide any arguments to indicate how the presently amended recitation adds any further clarification with respect to the rejection. Thus, this rejection is hereby maintained.

Applicant has failed to file a replacement sheet indicating Fig. 1 and Fig. 2 as prior art or provide remarks responsive to the objection. Thus, this objection is hereby maintained.

Applicant has failed to amend the previously objected title or provide remarks responsive thereto. Thus, this objection is hereby maintained.

Applicant has failed to amend the Abstract with respect to the previously objected recitation of "is provided" or provide remarks responsive thereto. Thus, this objection is hereby maintained.

Applicant has failed to amend the specification responsive to the previous objection thereto with respect to not providing required headers and has failed to provide remarks responsive thereto. Thus, this objection is hereby maintained.

Conclusion

THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL. Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire **THREE MONTHS** from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within **TWO MONTHS** of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the **THREE-MONTH** shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than **SIX MONTHS** from the mailing date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Thomas J. Hiltunen whose telephone number is (571) 272-5525. The examiner can normally be reached on Mondays - Fridays from 8:00am to 4:30pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Timothy P. Callahan, can be reached on (571) 272-1740. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.


Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR.

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Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only.

For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

TH
March, 29 2006


Terry D. Cunningham
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 2816